

U.S. LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

REPORT OF THE
LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
ENDING JUNE 30
1937



UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1937

On July 8, 1937, the books of the Copyright Office were balanced for June, the accounts for the year closed, and the financial statements completed for the Treasury Department, showing that all earned fees to June 30 had been paid into the Treasury.

The aggregate business done by this office during the past 40 years is as follows:

Total number of entries.....	5, 197, 238
Total number of articles deposited, approximately.....	8, 807, 655
Total amount of fees received and applied.....	\$5, 971, 022. 10
Total expenditure for service.....	\$5, 007, 078. 94
Total excess of receipts over expenditures.....	\$963, 943. 16

During the 67 years since the copyright work became a business of the Library of Congress, the total number of entries has been 6,078,094.

Under authority of sections 59 and 60 of the Copyright Act of 1909, 74,048 volumes have been transferred to the Library from deposits in the Copyright Office during the fiscal year, 4,185 books have been deposited in governmental libraries in the District of Columbia, and 37,767 articles have been returned to copyright claimants.

The "Catalog of Copyright Entries" for the calendar year 1936 was published in the same manner as in former years.

REORGANIZATION

The main features of the reorganization of the Copyright Office which have gradually been put into effect during the past year are: abolition of the Coordinating and Certificate Divisions, establishment of an examining board and a revisory board, merging of the Application, Deposit, and Periodical Divisions into a Deposit, Application, and Periodical Section, completion of plans for the readjustment of the files, organization of a filing system, to be followed by the establishment, as soon as practicable, of a Files and Mail Section.

As the result of these changes, registration and certification of registration are now effected under one head; examination of, and action upon, applications for registration are handled by an Examining Board so composed with respect to the number and qualifications of its personnel as to eliminate the "rush" work liable to result in erroneous entries; opportunity for adequate review of the Board's action is provided; the closely interrelated work incidental to the handling of deposits, applications, and periodicals is administered by a single chief; the correspondence files have been brought up to date and recommendations have been submitted for handling the voluminous index files in such a way as generally to simplify the office methods and facilitate the important work of searching past records.

COPYRIGHT OFFICE¹

Fees received and applied, fiscal year 1936-37

Registrations for published works (at \$2)-----	\$225,020.00
Registrations for unpublished works (at \$1)-----	31,874.00
Registrations (at \$1), photographs, no certificates-----	1,451.00
Registrations (at \$1), renewals-----	8,589.00
For copies of record-----	1,315.00
For assignments and copies of same-----	11,196.00
For notices of user-----	313.00
For indexing transfers of proprietorship-----	219.40
For searches-----	564.00
 Total-----	 <u>280,541.40</u>

Total number of registrations-----	154,424
Total communications received, including parcels, but excluding deposits noted above-----	219,686
Total communications sent out (including letters written)-----	193,180

The fees from copyrights are covered into the Treasury and not applied directly to the maintenance of the Copyright Office. They form a regular revenue of the Government, however, and a net revenue over the direct expenses of the office, as appears from the following calculation:

RECEIPTS

Fees covered in during the fiscal year 1936-37, as above-----	\$280,541.40
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EXPENDITURES

Salaries, including retirement fund-----	\$249,653.26
Stationery and sundries-----	2,095.21
	<u>251,748.47</u>

Net excess of receipts over expenditures-----	28,792.93
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The above statement includes all disbursements except the cost of furniture, printing, and binding, but only cash receipts. In addition to cash fees, the copyright business brings to the Government each year, in articles deposited, property to the value of many thousands of dollars. During the past fiscal year 240,894 such articles were received. The value of those transferred to the collections of the Library, when taken into account, would more than double the surplus shown above.

¹The report of the Register of Copyrights for the year ending June 30, 1937, appears as a separate publication.